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MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM:

[Redacted]

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Acting Chief, Strategic Issues Group/SOVA

SUBJECT:

US-Soviet Bilateral Exchanges

[Redacted]

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Attached for senior Agency officers are two information memorandums covering the current state of play across the whole range of US-Soviet relations. The first presents a summary of contacts and exchanges conducted over the last four months [Redacted]

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Attachments
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17 September 1986

US-Soviet Bilateral Discussions Since the Geneva Summit23 May - 16 September 1986

This memorandum reviews the status of US-Soviet bilateral contacts, consultations, exchanges, and cooperation in a number of areas other than the Geneva Nuclear and Space negotiations.

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25X1Exchanges

Cultural. On 5 August, the US and the USSR announced agreement on 13 cultural, educational and scientific exchanges. These resulted from the November meeting in Geneva between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev. A press conference was held at the US Information Agency to announce the protocols and was attended by Soviet Ambassador to the United States Yuriy V. Dubinin, Yuriy B. Kashaev, Chief of the Humanitarian and Cultural Ties Administration of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and Steven Rhinesmith, USIA's Coordinator of the President's US-Soviet Exchange Initiative. Negotiations on additional agreements are continuing, and future exchanges reportedly may include the Metropolitan and Bolshoi operas.

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A number of cultural, academic, and athletic contacts and exchanges have taken place since May:

- In mid-June more than 100 Americans participated in the Tchaikovsky Music Competition held in Moscow.
- In mid-June the first officially sponsored Soviet jazz group visited the US.

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This paper, prepared in the Directorate of Intelligence by [redacted] the Office of Soviet Analysis, [redacted] Comments or questions may be addressed to the author [redacted] or to Chief, Strategic Policy Division, [redacted]

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- In mid-June the founder and director of the Moscow Children's Musical Theater narrated the symphonic fairytale "Peter and the Wolf" in Albany, New York as part of a cultural exchange of children's theater troupes. The exchange began in January when the Empire State Institute presented several performances in Moscow of "Rag Dolly," the story of Raggedy Ann.
- In early July US athletes participated in the Moscow Goodwill Games. The games were sponsored jointly by the Turner Broadcasting System and the Soviet committees on sports, radio and television.
- In early July a delegation of Philadelphia community leaders traveled to Leningrad as part of the Philadelphia-Leningrad Sister Cities Project. The US delegation invited a Soviet delegation to visit Philadelphia in the fall.
- In July a large group of Soviet teachers, coaches and dance representatives attended the Third USA International Ballet Competition at Jackson, Mississippi, representing the first major private ballet exchange between the US and the USSR since the signing of the cultural exchange agreement in November 1985.
- In mid-August the Brandywine Museum and the Soviet Academy of Arts signed a letter of agreement to exhibit the works of Andrew Wyeth in Leningrad next spring. A reciprocal Soviet exhibit in the US is planned for 1988 or 1989.
- The first Soviet rock group to tour America arrived on 1 September.
- A "Chautauqua-style" town meeting began in Jurmala, near Riga, on Monday and is to conclude Friday. The event reciprocates a week-long arts and diplomatic conference on US-Soviet relations held in May 1985 in Chautauqua, New York. A group of 270 representative Chautauquans, performers and government officials, accompanied by 20 members of the press, are meeting with Soviet citizens. The administration is being represented by senior NSC staff member Jack Matlock and Mark Palmer, Ambassador-designate to Hungary, accompanied by Stephen Rhinesmith, USIA's Coordinator of the President's US-Soviet Exchange Initiative and deputy White House press secretary Ed Djerejian. Nongovernmental notables include Susan Eisenhower and former Virginia Governor Robb. The head of the USSR-USA Friendship Society is the Soviet host of the conference, while the official Soviet delegation is headed by Vladimir F. Petrovskiy, a Deputy Foreign Minister, and includes Col. Gen. Nikolai Chervov, a General Staff arms control spokesman. The meetings are being sponsored jointly by the Chautauqua Institution and the

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Eisenhower Institute under the title, "A Conference on US-Soviet Relations: A Journey in Open Diplomacy." [redacted]

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Legal. During 10-18 August a two-man team of Soviet lawyers, including the Minister of Justice of the RSFSR, Aleksandr Yu. Sukharev, conferred with US lawyers of the American Bar Association in Washington, New York City, Boston and San Francisco. [redacted]

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In mid-September, members of the American Bar Association and a group of Soviet lawyers held a three-day seminar at Dartmouth College that was the result of an agreement signed in June 1985 between the ABA and the Association of Soviet Lawyers. The seminar, "The American and Soviet Legal Systems: Parallels and Contrasts," featured two mock criminal trials staged by each side and a discussion of the tort law systems in the two nations. [redacted]

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Health. On 6 June Dr. Robert Gale and Professor Andrey Vorob'yev, a member of the Academy of Medical Sciences, signed an agreement establishing a joint project to study the health impact of the Chernobyl accident on roughly 100,000 individuals in the Chernobyl/Kiev area. Dr. Gale and Vorob'yev concluded the accord under the auspices of the US-USSR Agreement on Cooperation in Medical Science and Public Health (originally signed on 23 May 1972 and extended in 1977 and in 1982 through 23 May 1987). Under this arrangement interested USG and private institutions can participate in the study by making arrangements with the National Institutes of Health. [redacted]

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During 30 July - 5 August, a Soviet delegation led by Dr. Ivan Nikitin, Soviet Health Ministry Counselor, traveled to the US and signed a number of health-related agreements with private US entities. Some of the agreements entailed collaboration on a child health program in which Soviet scientists would participate and a medical exchange project proposed by the University of Alaska concerning the adaptation of the human body to northern climatic conditions and other circumpolar health issues. On 31 July, Dr. Nikitin met with a senior official of the Public Health Service to discuss the planned trips to Moscow by the Director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. James B. Wyngaarden, and the US Surgeon General, Dr. C. Everett Koop, some time this autumn. [redacted]

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Agricultural. On 17 June the Department of Agriculture postponed a planned trip of US experts to the USSR until next summer due to the Chernobyl accident. As part of an exchange agreement signed by former Secretary of Agriculture Block and former Minister of Agriculture Mesyats in June 1985, 15 American specialists had been scheduled to travel to the northern Ukraine and Byelorussia in late June as part of the young Agricultural Specialists Exchange. [redacted]

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In early August two Soviet specialists in plant anatomy (electron-microscopy) began a four-week meeting with their US counterparts. They were scheduled to attend the National Electronmicroscopy Society meeting in Albuquerque, visit the University of Iowa, and tour the Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois (Urbana). [REDACTED]

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Environmental. On 23-24 June, in accordance with a US-USSR agreement signed in 1974, the fifth meeting of the US-USSR Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Housing and other Construction was held in Washington. HUD Secretary Samuel R. Pierce, Jr. and First Deputy Chairman of the USSR State Construction Committee Igor N. Ponomarev led the two delegations. [REDACTED]

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Under the US-USSR Environmental Agreement on Effects of Changes in the Heat Balance of the Atmosphere on Climate, US scientists attended a symposium in Leningrad in late July on "Causes of Recent Climate Change." Other projects underway under this agreement are studies on the way pesticides and chemicals are transported and the interaction of forest ecosystems and pollutants. [REDACTED]

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Scientific. Since early April US and Soviet scientists have been discussing a possible joint US-USSR teleconference (by means of personal computers linked by commercial communications facilities) to discuss the implications of the global greenhouse warming effect. [REDACTED]

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On 4 July a private team of US scientists traveled to the Soviet Union to conduct the first US monitoring on Soviet soil of possible nuclear tests. In Moscow on 29 May, an agreement was signed (by New York lawyer Adrian W. DeWind, Chairman of the Natural Resource Defense Council, a private environmental group based in New York, and Yevgeny P. Velikhov, a vice president of the Academy of Sciences) that was aimed at resolving differences over the verification of arms control treaties, particularly those limiting nuclear explosions. Soviet scientists plan to send a team to three sites near the Nevada test facility later this year. The ostensible objective of the undertaking was to demonstrate that a nuclear test ban could be safeguarded against violations. While neither government was officially involved in the exchange, the US Government granted export licenses for the seismological gear the team used at three sites in the Soviet Union. The Soviets are citing this exchange as evidence of their interest in effective verification. [REDACTED]

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Educational. An accord signed on 5 August provided for the first exchange of US and Soviet high school students. Ten students from the Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts will change places next year with 10 Soviet students from a special mathematics and physics school for gifted students in Novosibirsk. [REDACTED]

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In other programs, American Russian language teachers and Soviet English language teachers will switch places for up to 10 months, and US and Soviet lecturers in history, economics and culture will also exchange places. []

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Human Contacts

On 8 July, Congressman James J. Florio (D., N.J.) met with a group of Leningrad refuseniks and expressed his hope that the Soviet Government's interest in increased trade with the US would prompt an improvement in the Soviet human rights performance. []

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On 13 August, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs Thomas W. Simons chaired a bilateral meeting on human rights with a deputy chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's USA Department, Vitaliy Mikol'chak, at the State Department. According to a State Department official, the agenda included people-to-people and cultural exchanges and a wide range of other bilateral issues. No protocols or agreements were signed. []

Bilateral Review Commission

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US and Soviet delegations held the first session of the Bilateral Review Commission on 22 July in Moscow. The BRC was established at the suggestion of the State Department to discuss the full range of administrative and substantive issues arising in connection with respective diplomatic establishments. Some of the topics discussed by the BRC included the consulates general in Leningrad and San Francisco, demonstrations, access to the Leningrad Consulate, harassment, security, and prevention of Soviets in the US from visiting local libraries. []

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In the opening session, Ambassador Hartman and Mr. Louis Sell, Director of Bilateral Affairs on the Soviet desk at State, presented the overall US approach to the BRC, including the US intention to discuss both administrative and consular issues and its proposal to convene the BRC once a year, with a second meeting in early 1987. The Soviet side, led by Consular Administration First Deputy Chief Abramenko, expressed interest in successful exchanges, did not rule out further BRC meetings, but suggested that they be held as necessary rather than on a regular basis. Abramenko also proposed that the next session of the Consular Review Talks (CRT) be held in the fall. []

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Trade

In late May, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Capital Goods and International Construction James R. Phillips led an advance mission to Moscow to participate in the organization of the International Trade Show on the

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Soviet Food Industry. Mr. Phillips met with First Deputy Premier Murakhovskiy, the chairman of the Soviet Government Commission for Dealing With Problems Concerning the Agro-Industrial Complex. Murakhovskiy, the top Soviet government administrator of the agricultural sector, has been invited to come to the US, perhaps in 1987. []

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On 24 June, James F. Giffen and Dwayne Andreas, president and chairman of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council, met with CPSU Secretary Anatoliy Dobrynin and had meetings at the USSR State Planning Committee, Ministry of Foreign Trade, State Committee for Science and Technology and other ministries and departments. They discussed the prospects for US companies' participation in projects for the development of the Soviet economy and the prospects for bilateral trade and economic co-operation. The US-USSR Trade and Economic Council is made up of 350 members of US industry and Soviet foreign trade groups and is dedicated to facilitating trade expansion between the two countries. []

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In June a US delegation led by Under Secretary of Agriculture Daniel Amstutz met with Soviet Deputy Minister for Trade V. M. Ivanov for the semi-annual grain consultations in Moscow. []

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From 28 August to 3 September, Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade S. Bruce Smart visited Moscow to open the US pavillion in the International Trade Show on the Soviet Food Industry in which over 60 US companies had exhibits on display from 3-11 September. Vladislav Malkevich, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, and First Deputy Premier Murakhovskiy participated in the opening ceremonies of the US pavillion with the Smart delegation. []

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Other plans for bilateral contacts for trade, especially in light industry and consumer goods, are in the nascent stages and probably will not be brought to fruition until 1987. []

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North Pacific Air Safety Agreement

A hotline connecting air traffic control centers in Anchorage, Tokyo, and Khabarovsk was inaugurated on 15 August. The hotline, which has conference call capability, will assist in civil air problems and may be used to assist military aircraft in emergency situations. []

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Civil Air

Pan Am and Aeroflot flights that began in April are running smoothly, but a number of administrative issues remain to be resolved, including visa, housing, customs, and overflight matters. []

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Consulates

In mid-June, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael H. Armacost said that the US planned to proceed with the opening of a consulate in Kiev, although the Chernobyl nuclear accident may delay the process. The US will not send any personnel to the city to oversee the remodeling and reconstruction of the consulate until it is satisfied that there is no health danger. As a result, work on the consulate has not yet begun. Soviet workers are not permitted to begin work on the Soviet living quarters for the consulate in New York until work begins on the Kiev consulate. Unrestricted Soviet access to the New York Consulate will not be permitted until the US has full control of the consulate buildings in Kiev. [redacted]

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Atomic Energy Cooperation

The sixth meeting of the US-USSR Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy, established in accordance with a bilateral agreement reached in 1973 and renewed in 1983, was held in Moscow on 17-22 August. The delegation was headed by Dr. Alvin W. Trivelpiece, Director, Office of Energy Research, US Department of Energy. The Soviet delegation was headed by Adronik M. Petros'yants, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy. A meeting of the Fusion Power Coordinating Committee is scheduled for Washington on 2-3 October. [redacted]

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Nuclear Risk Reduction Centers

The second round of exploratory discussions on nuclear risk reduction centers was held in Geneva on 25 August. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle and Special Assistant to the President Robert Linhard led the US delegation. Ambassador Aleksey A. Obukhov led the Soviet delegation. [redacted]

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Nuclear Testing Experts

On 4 September the US and the USSR resumed experts talks on nuclear testing. This is the second round of these discussions and they are expected to last until Friday. The heads of the delegations are Dr. Robert Barker, Deputy Assistant Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and Adronik M. Petros'yants, Chairman of the State Committee on Utilization of Atomic Energy. The first round was held in Geneva 25 July - 1 August. The US side is expected to discuss compliance verification with two existing accords--the 1974 Threshold Test Ban Treaty limiting the yield of underground nuclear explosions to 150 kilotons and the 1976 Treaty on Peaceful Nuclear Explosions allowing testing for non-military purposes such as civil engineering. [redacted]

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Nuclear Nonproliferation

The US and the USSR continued the regular series of consultations on nonproliferation matters in Moscow on 28 July - 1 August. This was the seventh meeting since their inception as a result of discussions between Secretary of State George Shultz and then Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko at the United Nations General Assembly in October 1982. Ambassador-at-Large Richard T. Kennedy and Boris A. Semenov, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy and the USSR Representative to the IAEA, discussed a wide range of issues, including prospects for strengthening the international nonproliferation regime, the importance of nuclear export controls and the mutual desire of the US and the USSR to strengthen the International Atomic Energy Agency. The US delegation requested from the Soviet delegation any information it might have regarding the Chernobyl accident and Moscow's plans for the post-accident review meeting in Vienna, held 25-29 August, under the auspices of the IAEA. [REDACTED]

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Chemical Weapons Treaty and Nonproliferation

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On 4-5 September in Bern, US and Soviet delegations held the second round of CW Nonproliferation Talks. The delegations were led by John Hawes, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Politico-Military Affairs, and Ambassador Israelyan. They exchanged opinions and discussed ways of averting chemical weapons proliferation. [REDACTED]

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Civil Space Cooperation

On 12-13 September US and Soviet technical experts met in Moscow to revive US-Soviet Civil Space cooperation. The US team was led by Jet Propulsion Laboratory Director Dr. Lew Allen, and Academician Roal'd Z. Sagdeyev, Director of the Soviet Institute of Space Research, headed the Soviet delegation. The two sides identified significant common ground in major areas of space science despite differences of emphasis and approach. They developed an unsigned paper which indicated potential for cooperation. [REDACTED]

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Regional Experts Talks

On 27-28 August in Washington, Under Secretary of State Armacost met with Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Leonidovich Adamishin, Vladimir Kazimirov of the First Latin America Department, Aleksandr Zotov of Arab Affairs, and Sergey Krylov of African Affairs. This meeting, which was intended to review all regional issues, was requested by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr

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Bessmertnykh when he visited Washington in July. Bessmertnykh had proposed that the talks search for "common ground" in specific areas of tension. No new movement resulted from the meeting, which was held to help prepare for the 19-20 September Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting. The topics discussed included the Middle East, terrorism, Afghanistan, Asia, southern Africa, and Central America. []

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Asia. Three Soviet diplomats--Chief of the Bureau of Asian Socialist Countries Igor Rogachev, Chief of the Foreign Division of Southeast Asian Affairs Anatoliy Zaytsev, and Chief of the Department of the People's Republic of China Genrikh Kireyev--traveled to Washington for a regional experts meeting on 10-11 June. The Soviets took a predictable approach in these meetings with broad sweeping proposals on peace and security in Asia. They did not demonstrate any flexibility on major issues of concern to the nations of the region. []

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Middle East. On 26-27 June, Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, led a delegation to Stockholm for experts talks. The Soviet delegation was headed by MFA Near East Asian Director Vladimir Polyakov. The delegates exchanged views on the Iran-Iraq War, Syrian-Israeli tensions, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Libya and terrorism, the internal Israeli political scene and the PDRY. []

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Afghanistan. The fifth and final meeting of the second round of the Regional Experts Talks on Afghanistan was held in Moscow on 2 September. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Arnold Raphel and Yuriy K. Alekseyev, Chief of the MFA's Middle Eastern Countries Department, led the discussions, which revealed no change in Soviet policy on Afghanistan. The Soviet position that outside interference is the cause of the situation in Afghanistan and that its cessation and guaranteed non-resumption should precede Soviet troop withdrawal was accompanied by calls for a reciprocal goodwill gesture from the US and Pakistan to match the unilateral withdrawal of six Soviet regiments announced by Gorbachev at Vladivostok in July. The Soviets stated they require a long withdrawal timetable to verify US-Pakistani compliance of non-interference commitments and asked how non-interference would be implemented. []

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